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Applicant: Griffin
Serial No.: 10/802,347
Filed: 03/17/2004
Title: COMPACT FOLDABLE RAMP
Examiner: Addi
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the fourth section such that upon folding the first, second and third sections as a trio into nesting configuration with the fourth section, the ribs of the fourth section move into said second section slots, therein enabling the second section runway top surface to move into close parallel opposition with the fourth section lower surface ~~impeded~~unimpeded by fourth section ribs.

17. (Currently amended) A portable foldable ramp comprising multiple segments hinged end to end and foldable on hinges, sections decreasing in size both longitudinally and transversely from a largest section on a first ramp end to a smallest section on a second ramp end, the ramp curling in folding beginning with the smallest section nesting in a next larger adjacent section until the two largest section on the first end sandwich the smaller sections nested therebetween with all sections in parallel disposition.

18. (Previously presented) The portable foldable ramp section of claim 17 wherein all sections curl relatively in the same first rotational direction in folding, and in a same second rotational directional opposite the first rotational direction in unfolding, limited in unfolding rotation by section end to end abutment.

19. (Currently amended) A portable foldable ramp comprising ~~first, second, third and fourth~~ a plurality of ramp sections disposed longitudinally end to end, each section comprising a runway with ~~an a~~ top surface and a lower surface ~~and longitudinal first and second ends~~,

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a hinge with a hinge bar connecting each pair of adjacent ramp sections ~~end~~
~~to end longitudinally, and~~
end members transverse on adjacent ramp section longitudinal first and
second ends each end member with an abutting surface facing outward
from its respective section end with its normal longitudinal with the ramp
adapted with opposing said abutting surfaces of said end members of
adjacent sections ~~directly~~ abutting together longitudinally when the ramp
is unfolded, rotating on said hinges into and out of abutment such that
load forces are conveyed through abutted sections to ramp ends, said
hinge spaced apart from said end members so as not to interfere with
said end member abutment,

wherein said hinges respectively connecting the abutting section ends are
disposed under section runway lower surfaces such that all sections curl
together in a same first direction of rotation to fold and uncurl in a second
direction of rotation opposite said first direction of rotation to unfold, a
runway undersurface of the a first section at a ramp first end folding into
parallel face-to-face opposition with a runway undersurface of the an
adjacent second section forming a pair of sections, said pair of sections
rotating with the top surface of said first section folding into parallel face-
to-face opposition with the bottom surface of the a third section adjacent